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ABSTRACT

The Michigan Department of Education received a grant of $42,950 from the U.S. Office of Education under Public Law 89-10, Title IV for the 1969-70 educational research internship program. The Bureau of Research administered the program for the department. The two interrelated purposes of the program were to contribute to the training of educational research-related personnel, and to gain meaningful assistance from the research interns in furthering the research and development activities of the department. The training program included assigning interns to practice-oriented research tasks compatible with their professional interest and/or needs and conducting bi-weekly seminars designed to assist their professional growth. During the program period, nine intern positions were created and funded and 14 graduate students at Michigan State University participated in the program. Interns worked up to 20 hours per week and at the same time continued their graduate education program. Evaluation of the program demonstrated that the program was successful and contributed meaningfully to the two objectives. Four research interns from the 1969-70 program period are now employed as full-time personnel in the Department of Education. The program was worthwhile and effective in meeting both the needs of the interns and of the department. (Author/MBM)

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Final Report

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AN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, STATE OF MICHIGAN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
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Final Report, An Educational Research
Internship Program, for the
Department of Education, State of Michigan (1969-70)

Purposes of the Program

The Michigan Department of Education, under the provisions of Title IV of P.L. 89-10, received a grant of $42,950 from the U.S. Office of Education to carry out an educational research internship program during the 1969-70 academic year. The program, which was administered by the Department's Bureau of Research, emphasized two interrelated purposes.

The primary purpose of the program was to contribute to the training of educational research-related personnel. The Michigan State Department of Education achieved this goal by providing selected graduate students with practical research-related experiences through internships in ongoing educational programs in the Department of Education. The Department of Education is in a unique position to provide graduate students with learning opportunities for applied research, planning and developmental activities. The Department of Education has in operation a broad range of programs[1] including compensatory education, vocational education, special education, research and planning, vocational rehabilitation and higher education. The Department is also a central agency in educational government, operating in the context of federal-state-local interrelationships. The personnel of the Department, representing a wide range of expertise and skills, are valuable human resources for providing graduate students with practice-oriented training. Consequently students are able to obtain valuable practice-oriented experiences in

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[1] See Appendix

planning, research, and development under the supervision of qualified researchers, consultants and administrators by participating in a variety of programs and problems at the state level as well as intermediate and local school district levels.

This program substantially supplemented the interns' academic training at the University, and in turn contributed to the identification and training of the educational research-related personnel for the Michigan Department of Education and other agencies.

The secondary purpose of the program was to gain meaningful assistance from the research interns in furthering the research and development activities of the Michigan Department of Education. In recent years, the Michigan Department of Education has been increasing its leadership role in improving the Michigan educational system, including strengthening research and development activities within the Department. Planning and decision-making, and the coordination of various programs and services in the Department increasingly rely upon information that is based upon reviews of pertinent literature and quantitative analyses of data. Thus, there are ever-increasing needs for research interns to assist in carrying out research-related tasks in the various units in the Department.

The Department's research-related tasks received considerable impetus through the assistance of the research interns.

Administration of the Program

During the 1969-70 program period the Bureau of Research administered the program for the Department. The program responsibilities included: 1) recruitment and selection of interns; 2) planning assignments for

practical research experiences; 3) planning and conducting bi-weekly seminars; 4) review, evaluation and reporting of the program; and 5) general supervision and administration.

A program director and a program coordinator were appointed for the purpose of planning, implementing, and administering the program. The program director for the 1969-70 program was:

Dr. C. Philip Kearney, Associate Superintendent

The program coordinator was:

Dr. Ki-Suck Chung, Research Consultant.

The Bureau of Research Cooperated with the Personnel and Budget Offices of the Department in the administration of the program.

Training Components

The design and admistration of the 1969-70 research internship program included the two major components: 1) assignment of research interns to organizational units for practice-oriented research experiences; and 2) intern seminars designed to assist the professional growth of interns.

1. Research-related Experiences of Interns

A. In designing the training experiences for interns, the compatibility of both the primary and secondary purposes of the program was carefully considered. Continuing efforts were made to assign interns to positions that were appropriate to their professional interests and needs.

B. During the 1969-70 program period nine intern positions were created and funded considering carefully the needs for research

and development activities of various organizational units in the Department. The supervisors of interns were experienced and qualified research consultants, educational consultants and educational administrators who were prepared to provide the intern with meaningful research assignments under careful supervision. The intern positions were distributed among the following organizational units:

. Bureau of Research.....Three positions

. Curriculum Division.....One position

. School Management Services Division.....One position

. Financial Aids Division,

Bureau of Higher Education.....One position

. Division of Vocational Education.....One position

. Division of Special Education.....One position

. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.....One position

TOTAL:.....Nine positions

C. All intern positions during the course of the 1969-70 educational research internship program were filled by graduate students from Michigan State University located in East Lansing, Michigan. Interns worked up to twenty hours per week for the Department of Education and at the same time continued their graduate programs. During the 1969-70 period, fourteen graduate students participated in the program (A turnover of interns accounts for the fact that a total of fourteen persons filled the nine positions during the course of the program period.). Presented below are the names of the interns, their major field of study and name of supervisor by organizational unit.

Name of Intern	Major Field of Study	Name of Supervisor
Bureau of Research: Three positions:		
William Boyle	Business Administration	Morley Murphy
Barbara Brown	Special Education	Ki-Suck Chung
Coral Dowd	Business Education	Ki-Suck Chung
George Parker	Labor and Industrial Relations	Thomas P. Wilbur
Ronald Perrote	Music Education	Wiley Brownlee
Nancy Schoewe	Educational Psychology	James Bebermeyer
Curriculum Division: One position:		
Carolyn Kneller	Home Economics	Clarence Wills
Thomas Mercer	Curriculum	Clarence Wills
School Management Services Division: One position:		
Larry Paige	Curriculum	Roger Boline
Financial Aids Division, Bureau of Higher Education: One position:		
Raymond Larocque	Philosophy	Ronald Jursa
Gary Davis	Student Personnel	Ronald Jursa
Division of Vocational Education: One position:		
John Robertson	Agricultural Education	Charles Langdon
Division of Special Education: One position:		
Harrold Spicknall	Administration of Special Education	Marvin Beekman

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: One position:

Robert Struthers	Guidance and Personnel Services	Donald Galvin

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TOTAL: Nine Positions, Fourteen Interns

2. Intern Seminars

As a major component of the program, the Bureau of Research planned and conducted bi-weekly two-hour seminars to assist the interns' professional growth. The seminars were considered as part of the interns' working hours for the Department. The major areas treated in the seminars were: 1) Major educational issues in Michigan; 2) Introduction to and analysis of the functions and activities of the Department of Education; and 3) Research methods in education.

During the program period, twenty intern seminars were planned and conducted. The topics and speakers by area of emphasis were as follows:

A. Major Educational Issues in Michigan: Five topics:

Topic	Speaker
Assessment of Educational Progress in Michigan	Mr. Robert Crowson Research Consultant Bureau of Research
School District Reorganization	Mr. David Donovan Consultant Bureau of Administrative Services
Educational Reform Proposals	Mr. Charles Greenleaf Administrative Assistant Executive Office of the Governor
Michigan Program for Assessment of Education	Mr. Robert Huyser Coordinator Educational Assessment Services Bureau of Research

Goals of Michigan Education	Mr. Philip Hawkins Research Consultant Bureau of Research

B. Functions and Activities of the Michigan Department of Education: Seven topics:

Topic	Speaker
Communication within the State Department of Education	Dr. Wiley Brownlee Research Consultant Bureau of Research
Procedures for Collecting Data From Local Educational Agencies by the Department	Mr. Morley Murphy Research Consultant Bureau of Research
How to Evaluate Project Development	Dr. Harry Groulx Consultant Bureau of Educational Services
ESEA, Title I Evaluation	Dr. Wiley Brownlee Research Consultant Bureau of Research and Mr. Kenneth Swanson Coordinator, ESEA, Title I
Major Services Rendered by the Department of Education	Dr. John W. Porter Acting State Superintendent
State Board of Education	Mr. Ladislaus Dombrowski Administrative Secretary State Board of Education
State Vocational Education Plan	Dr. William Pierce Deputy Superintendent

C. Research Methods in Education: Eight topics

Topic	Speaker
Management Styles in Educational Organizations	Dr. Ki-Suck Chung Research Consultant Bureau of Research

Theory and Research on the Distribution of Educational Finances	Dr. Thomas P. Wilbur Research Consultant Bureau of Research
Some Comments Regarding the Nature of Stress, and Reactions to Stress	Dr. Warren Lasell Research Consultant Bureau of Research
Is Research Objective?	Mr. William Loadman Research Consultant Bureau of Research
Practical Problems in Conducting Survey Research	Mrs. Carole Beere Research Consultant Bureau of Research
A Study of Community Attitudes	Mr. Allen Ahola Research Consultant Bureau of Research
Research in the Politics of Education	Dr. Philip Kearney Associate Superintendent
Innovativeness in Intermediate School Districts	Mr. Harrold Spicknall Special Education Division

Evaluation of the Program

The Bureau of Research conducted a semi-annual and a final review and evaluation of the program employing a questionnaire method.[2] The purposes of the evaluation were to obtain data useful in monitoring the program, and also to ascertain the extent to which the operation of the program achieved its two purposes: 1) contribution to the training of educational research-related personnel and 2) gaining meaningful assistance from research interns for the research and development activities of the Department of Education.

1. Contribution to the Training of Educational Research-Related Personnel.

This purpose was achieved through: 1) assignments of interns to

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[2]Semi-annual evaluation: January 1970; final Evaluation: June 1970.

positions that are compatible with their professional interests and needs, and 2) intern seminars.

The job assignments of interns could be characterized in general as practice-oriented research activities. The interns' specific roles included conducting special studies; assisting in preparation of reports; collection, analysis, and compilation of statistical data; assisting in state level planning of educational programs; review and analysis of legislative acts; assisting in the evaluation of program performance; reviews of literature; program review and recommendations; assisting in conference planning and implementation.

The results of both semi-annual and final evaluations demonstrated that the training experiences of interns in the Department were compatible with their interest and/or professional needs. In the semi-annual evaluation (January 1970) seven out of eight interns, who responded to the questionnaire, indicated that their job assignments were in general basically compatible with their interest and/or professional needs. In the final evaluation (June 1970) all eight interns, who returned the questionnaire, indicated that their job assignments were in general basically compatible with their interest and/or professional needs.

Intern Seminars were designed and conducted to assist the professional growth of interns, supplementing the job assignments in the various organizational units. The twenty seminars conducted during the program period covered three areas as stated above: 1) Major educational issues in Michigan; 2) Introduction to and analysis of the functions and activities of the Department of Education; and 3) Research methods in education. Seminar speakers were research consultants, educational consultants and administrators knowledgeable about the subject.

Interns perceived that the seminars were interesting and relevant to them. In the semi-annual evaluation (January 1970), out of the eight interns who responded to the questionnaire seven indicated that seminars were interesting and relevant to them. In the final evaluation (June 1970) all eight interns, who returned the questionnaire, indicated that seminars were interesting and relevant to them.

As perceived by interns, the two major components of the training program--the job assignment and intern seminars--contributed to their professional growth. The practice-oriented research internship program appeared to have contributed meaningfully to the training of educational research-related personnel, supplementing academic training of the University.

2. Gaining meaningful assistance from Interns for the functions of the Department.

The secondary and concomitant purpose of the program was to gain meaningful assistance from interns for the research and development functions and activities of the Department. Due to limited resources the Department is short of manpower in carrying out research and development activities, which are increasing needs within the Department; therefore, the program intended to assist in strengthening the Department by assigning interns to positions where the interns' professional needs and the Department needs were compatible.

In both semi-annual and final evaluations, intern supervisors indicated that interns contributed significantly to the functions of their organizational units. The program was meaningful and valuable in strengthening the Michigan Department of Education. The contribution of this program to the Department of Education may be well demonstrated

by the fact that four research interns from the 1969-70 program period are now employed by the Department of Education as full time professional personnel. They are:

Harrold Spicknall.....Division of Special Education

Robert Struthers.....Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Raymond Larocque.....Bureau of Higher Education

Nancy (Schoewe) Heyser.....Bureau of Research

The program proved valuable in identifying and training full-time professional personnel for the Department of Education. It could be fairly stated that the 1969-70 educational research internship program was successful in achieving the two purposes.

Summary

The Michigan Department of Education received a grant of $42,950 from U.S. Office of Education under P.L. 89-10, Title IV for the 1969-70 educational research internship program. The Bureau of Research administered the program for the Department. The two interrelated purposes of the program were: 1) to contribute to the training of educational research-related personnel, and 2) to gain meaningful assistance from the research interns in furthering the research and development activities of the Department.

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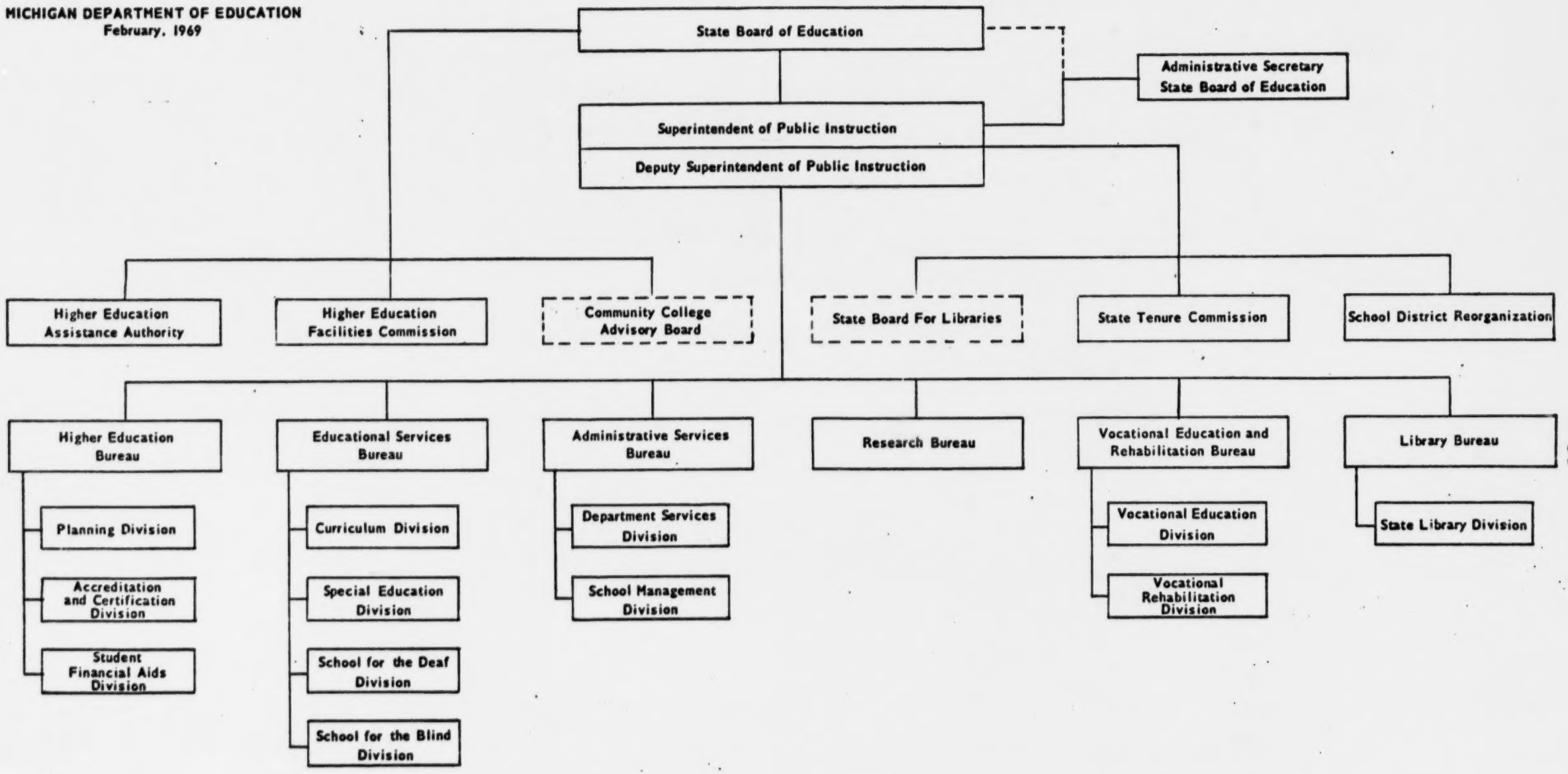
Appendix


MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
February, 1969
State Board of Education
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State Board of Education
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
Higher Education Assistance Authority
Higher Education Facilities Commission
Community College Advisory Board
State Board For Libraries
State Tenure Commission
School District Reorganization
Higher Education Bureau
Planning Division
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Student Financial Aids Division
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School for the Blind Division
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Vocational Education Division
Vocational Rehabilitation Division
Library Bureau
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